



# OUR TOWN

SERVING THE VILLAGES OF BALTIC, HANOVER AND VERSAILLES  
IN THE BEAUTIFUL SHETUCKET RIVER VALLEY

VOLUME XVIII  
ISSUE VI  
JUNE 2008

**INFORMATION \* NEWS \***

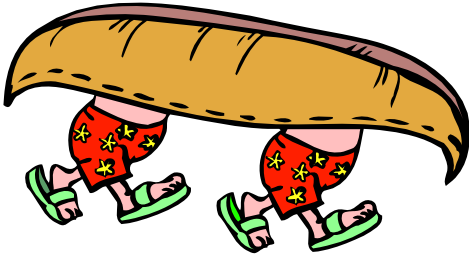
ENJOY THE RIVER

WITH YOUR KAYAK, CANOE OR TUBE

**SATURDAY, June 7, 2008**

RAIN DATE: JUNE 14

MEETING POINT: Shetucket River Park  
(Near Route 97/Lord's Bridge In Baltic)



REGISTRATION: 8:30-9:30 AM Day Of Event at River Park

EVENT START: 10:00 AM (Coordinated Water Release) from SCOTLAND DAM\*

COURSE: Beautiful Shetucket River ~ Approx. 5 Mile

FINISH: River Park (Just Past Bridge)

COST: \$4 Individual; \$6 Family; \$2 Tubers

\*TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE TO RUN PEOPLE AND KAYAKS TO SCOTLAND DAM. PARK VEHICLE AT RIVER PARK. EVENT WILL START AT THE SCOTLAND DAM (STATION ROAD, JUST OFF WALDO ROAD) TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED UNTIL AROUND 1 PM.

**Three events**  
**kayak canoe race prizes to top finishers**  
**tube race bring your own**  
**duck race ages and under**



**ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST WEAR A PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE**  
**YES, EVEN TUBERS!**



FOOD AND BEVERAGES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT RIVER PARK  
PROCEEDS GO TO SPRAGUE PARK AND RECREATION  
Contact Sprague Park & Rec, Reggie Patchell; (860) 822-6228

**VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!!!!** Please call Sarah Richardson at: (860) 822-0779

Editor's Recommendation: WEAR POLYPROPYLENE CLOTHING WITH A THIN POLYFIBER SHELL TO BLOCK THE WIND. Bring a wool cap and maybe an extra pair of warm socks. WHILE SWIMMING IS NOT RECOMMENDED, NEITHER ARE SWEAT SHIRTS, OR HEAVY COTTON JEANS — WHEN WET THEY ARE HEAVY AND CUMBERSOME.

**OUR TOWN**

**SIDEWALK  
GROUNDBREAKING**

A groundbreaking ceremony for the Phase 1 sidewalk project is scheduled for Tuesday, July 1. Local dignitaries will be on hand for the 10:30 a.m. ceremony to take place near the Grist Mill. The public is invited.

**LYME DISEASE INFORMATION**

For information about upcoming legislation and group activities contact Kimberlee Pappa, Chapter Chair, Eastern CT Chapter, Lyme Disease Association, (860) 303-9020 cell, easternctlda@yahoo.com www.lymediseaseassociation.org

**OUR TOWN STAFF**

Sprague ~ Our Town is a free monthly publication of the Town of Sprague, serving the communities of Baltic, Hanover and Versailles. Primarily funded by the Town, support is also provided by paid advertisements. Opinions expressed in Sprague ~ Our Town are not necessarily those of town officials or the community at large, but solely reflect those of the writer. Submissions may be edited for clarity and format as necessary. Libelous or obscene materials are not permitted. **Editor:** Amy Lynn Reifsnnyder **Editorial Assistant:** Colette Hoffman **Production Staff:** Jeannette Bastien; Al Hoffman, Rita Grenier, Al Grenier, Barbara Robitaille, John Ellis, Joe Osowski, Richard Waterman, Ruth Clark, Dennison Allen, and whoever else wanders through the room the day we collate. Feel free to volunteer! Good storytellers welcome. Information: (860) 456-1082; OurTownNews@gmail.com

**P AND Z TO MEET**

The Commission holds its regular monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the courtroom on the second floor of Town Hall. The agenda is posted on the bulletin board in the town clerk's office on the Monday immediately preceding the meeting. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Members of the Commission are Shawn Bittman, Kord Jablonski, Paul Piezzo, Arthur Spielman Jr., Gerald Stefon, and Richard Waterman. Alternate members are Kathleen Boushee, Mick Collins, and Christian Mueller. The Commission employs a part-time planner and consultant, Tom Seidel of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, and a zoning enforcement officer, Joe Smith. An audiotape, as well as written minutes of the Commission meetings, is available at the Town Hall. Additional information is available at www.ctsprague.org.

**SPRAGUE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Baltic – Hanover – Versailles  
Kindergarten (Full-day) Registration**

**Sayles School  
25 Scotland Road, Baltic, CT  
06330  
(860) 822-8264**

Sayles School is currently conducting kindergarten registration for the 2008-2009 school year. Parents of children who will be five years old by January 1, 2009, must provide birth certificates, social security numbers and immunization records for rubella, measles, polio, mumps, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis B and chicken pox.


Parents also need to provide three proofs of residency showing the street address. It is important that all students planning to attend full-day kindergarten during the 2008-2009 school year be registered as soon as possible.

Call (860) 822-8264, Ext. 100, for a registration packet or if you have any questions.


**MISSING FROM  
HANOVER  
SINCE APRIL 27**

Orange & White  
18 lb. Neutered Male Cat  
Friendly and No Front Claws  
Offering Reward

Call: Grace at  
(860) 822-8030

The Park and Recreation Department would like to thank the following volunteers for the wonderful job they did cleaning the Senior Center: Kellse Erickson, Shannon Foley, Susan Foley.



**DOG LICENSING MONTH**

\$8.00 for spayed or neutered dogs  
\$19.00 for male or female dogs  
Office hours: Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.,  
Wed. until 5:30 p.m.

If licensing for the first time: Proof of rabies vaccinations and castration certificate must be presented before license is issued.

If mailing in renewal:

1. If during the past year your dog has been spayed/neutered or a rabies vaccination was given by the veterinarian, mail papers with the check and we will return them with the new tag.
2. A self-addressed stamped envelope must be enclosed.
3. Mail to: Town Clerk, PO Box 162, Baltic, CT 06330

If any questions, call (860) 822-3000, ext.220.

Claire B. Glaude, Town Clerk

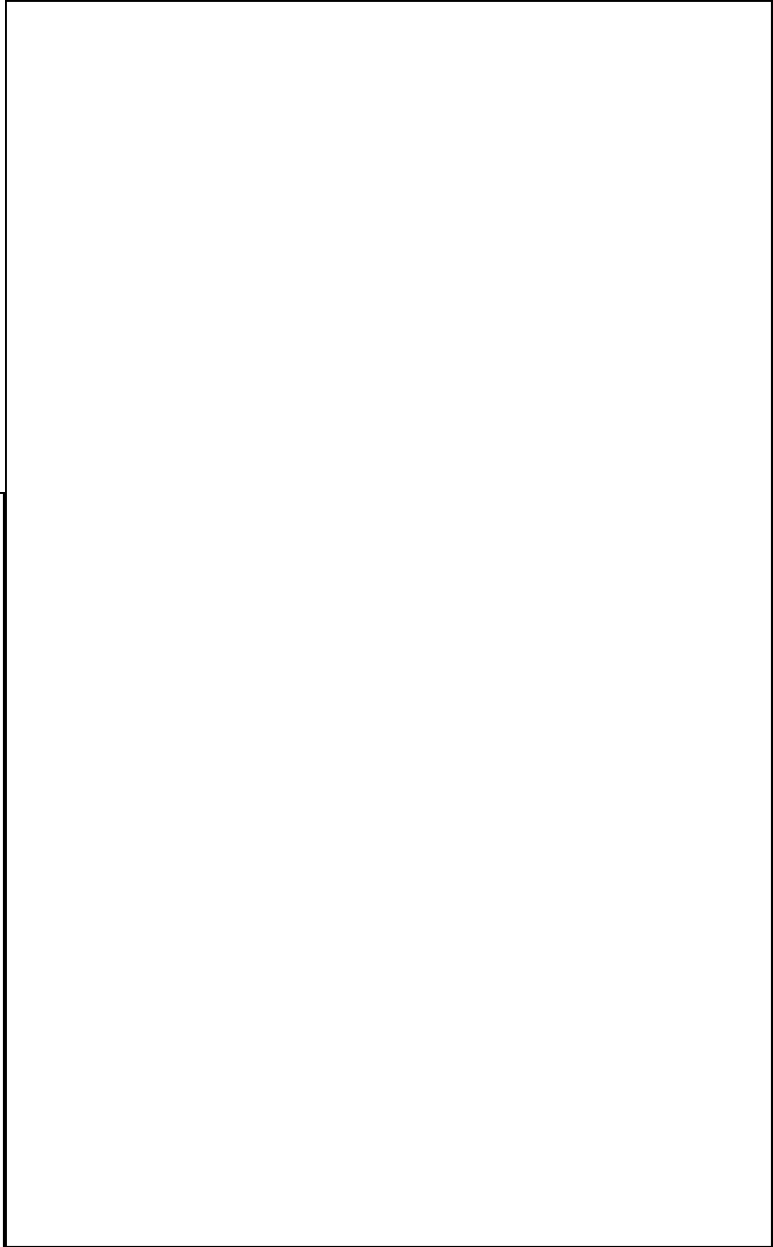
**WATER AND SEWER CUSTOMER ADVISORY**

The state mandated Consumer Confidence Report will be available at Town Hall in the Water and Sewer Authority Office during regular office hours.

We at the Sprague Water and Sewer Authority work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water resources. They are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.



~ Todd Hastings, Superintendent



**VERSAILLES  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
4 Church Street  
Is sponsoring a**

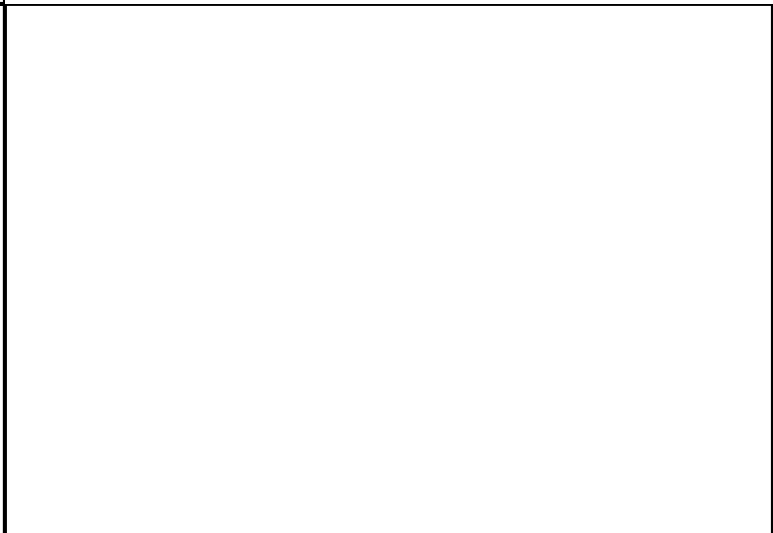
**TAG AND BAKE SALE**

**To benefit**

**Andrew Blanchette  
of Lisbon**

**SATURDAY \* JUNE 28  
8 A.M. 'TIL 2 P.M.**

**ANDREW BLANCHETTE**



**OUR TOWN**

**BRANCHING OUT...**

**NOTES FROM THE TREE WARDEN**

I was able to get the three trees that wintered over in the River Park planted last month with the much appreciated help from the road crew. The two maples are now at the ball fields and the oak is along the road in front of the transfer station. All three seem happy and were in full blossom at the time of planting.

My goal for the ball field area is to get new trees mature enough to provide shade for fans before the old trees fade away.

The oak trees at the transfer station are intended to provide some shade while also providing a more pleasant view from the road. Unfortunately, one of the young oak trees planted last spring does not seem to have survived being eaten naked by the orange-striped oak caterpillars last fall. I'll work out a replacement in the fall if nurturing it doesn't bring it back.

I planted a gray bark dogwood on the bank at the River Park during our Earth Day celebration. Eventually that bank area will be a white blossoming back in the spring time. Additionally, five colorful trees, chokecherry, witch hazel, and fringe tree, were planted on the river bank side of the split rail fence at the Memorial Park. These will provide a blast of color in the spring and provide a haven for birds most of the year.

Just a note: I have only been purchasing native, American trees for the town, avoiding exotic or invasive trees that would not reflect our true corner of the world.

Please remember that no one is allowed to cut, prune or remove any tree that is a public tree without a permit. A public tree is any tree that is on town property or in the town's roadside right-of-way. I will gladly measure and assess any tree in question, but I have to be informed to do that.

I had an incident recently with a contractor who was certain that I had no authority to prevent his signs being nailed to telephone poles in our town. Acting Resident State Trooper Saucier was very helpful correcting the contractor's understanding of the State ordinance that prohibits the attachment of any sign, advertisement, etc., to a public tree, pole or other natural object. I choose to enforce the ordinance because it is, to me, one thing I can do to keep Sprague a more pleasant place to live and visit.

~ Dave Gustafson, Tree Warden

**TRASH BOARD NEEDS VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are needed for the new Transfer Station Help Board.

Board members will help develop, review and make recommendations to the First Selectman's office and/or the Board of Selectmen, as needed.

Contact Walt Bell at the Transfer Station during regular hours (see calendar page) for more information.

Get involved—keep our Transfer Station!

**TRASH TRIVIA**

Last month's Trash Trivia question was "Name the current 10 mandatory recyclables required by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection."

The answer:

1. Leaves
2. Glass and metal food or beverage containers
3. Used motor oil
4. Vehicle lead-acid batteries
5. Scrap metal
6. Corrugated cardboard
7. White office paper
8. Newspapers
9. Nickel-cadmium batteries
10. Grass clippings.



**FROM THE EDITOR: Deadline for submissions** is the 15th of each month. The writer's name, address and a contact phone number must be included with each submission. Because the focus of Our Town is community events, there may be times when there is simply not enough space to run opinions.

**Ads may be pre-purchased at a rate of : Business Card \$21; Double Business Card \$40; Half Page, \$70; Full Page, \$100.**

Submissions may be e-mailed to

OurTownNews@gmail.com, or mailed to Town Hall, P.O. Box 677, Baltic, CT 06330.

~Amy Lynn Reifsnnyder, (860) 456-1082

**Weight Watchers**

Weight Watchers meetings will be held Fridays, 3:30 p.m. in the media center at Sayles School. The cost of the 12-week program is \$152. For more information, contact Kelli Shrewsbury at (860) 822-8264, ext. 142.

**Attention Seniors!**

A SPA ESCAPE will be held at the Senior Center on Tuesday, June 3, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Come and join the fun! Information: (860) 456-1082

*Church News*

You're Invited!

Pastor Wanda J. Greaves invites the community to join in Sunday worship at Versailles United Methodist Church, 4 Church Street, Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Sunday School is held during worship. The church is wheelchair accessible. Coffee and fellowship follow the service.  
Information: (860) 822-9439.

# Sprague Conservation Commission Update

Hello again fellow Sprague citizens, I hope everyone is well and enjoying late Spring and early Summer. To those who had the opportunity to attend the Preserving Family Land workshop, I hope you found the speakers and information educational and useful. We had a very good turnout. It's comforting to see that there are many of us that find these issues important to us and our families.

In regards to River Park issues, all is moving along slowly but surely. The inmates along with conservation volunteers are helping us spread new loam. We hope to get some new seed out before it gets too hot.

We will also be planting, mulching, building stairs, and chipping up limbs. We all hope that more town folks will come down and enjoy the park and help out when ever they can. On other town issues, kudos to those who came out to vote on the budget. Now let's move on to continue the new energy in town to create a great place for all of us and our families to live. In the spirit of that, come and hike with us at the Mukluk on June 8 and 22. We will be leaving the Grist Mill at 10:30 a.m.

Also please pay attention to the next big issue which is to save the Mukluk once and for all, forever, and to accept the \$500,000 that the state has promised us to offset the cost to the town.

~ Don Boushee, Chair

# FROM THE RESIDENT TROOPER

I would like to introduce myself to you, if I have not already met you in passing. I am Trooper John Saucier, acting resident trooper for the Town of Sprague. I am covering for Trooper Patterson until he returns to duty as your resident trooper.

I come to you from Troop E, Montville, with 10-plus years of law enforcement experience.

Now onto more important business.

There have been several attempted burglaries in some of the surrounding towns. There have not been any similar incidents here in Sprague, and I want to keep it that way! There have been several arrests related to these incidents but I believe there are still individuals committing these criminal acts based on information we have. This is not meant to scare you, but to inform you.

During several incidents, the individuals targeted dark, secluded homes with no vehicles in the driveway. They may think nobody is home, so it may be an easy target. They may ring the doorbell or knock for several minutes until someone answers or not. If you see a strange vehicle or anything out of the ordinary in the area, please let us know and don't wait to call.

Lock your doors—which you should always do anyway—and possibly leave a car in the driveway instead of the garage.

Try keeping a light on inside and out if possible, but most of all, be aware.

Recently, there have been a couple cars unlawfully entered but nothing was taken. An unlocked car is an easy target, so please lock them, too.

Don't make it easy for the bad guys.

Some items of interest are I-Pods, GPS units, cell phones, and anything else in view. Put these things away out of view.

With your help, we can keep our town safe.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call or just stop and talk when you see me around town.

On a side note, if you have any questions regarding security tips around your house, feel free to contact me. I wouldn't mind discussing any concerns, or stopping by to talk in person.

I do like coffee, but please, NO DONUTS!

~TFC John Saucier

## New Recycling Program for Rechargeable Batteries and Cell Phones!



✓ All Cell Phones

✓ Nickel Cadmium Batteries

✓ Nickel Hydride Batteries

✓ Lithium Ion



Ask the Transfer Station Attendant for the Recycling Location!

## MUKLUK HIKES

Sunday, June 8  
10:30 a.m.

Sunday, June 22  
10:30 a.m.

Leave from Grist Mill  
Dress for the weather  
Bring water

